



# Southern Lepidopterists' **NEWS**

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THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE SOUTHERN LEPIDOPTERISTS' SOCIETY ORGANIZED  
TO PROMOTE SCIENTIFIC INTEREST AND KNOWLEDGE RELATED TO UNDERSTANDING  
THE LEPIDOPTERA FAUNA OF THE SOUTHERN REGION OF THE UNITED STATES

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LEROY C. KOEHN: EDITOR

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## JEFFREY R. SLOTTEN 1998 ABBOT AWARD RECIPIENT

I was born on May 2nd, 1955 in Chicago, Illinois. I spent the first 8 years in a section of Chicago called Old Town, not far from Lincoln Park and Lake Michigan. My parents raised 4 boys here and my interest in lepidoptera began in this very developed city area. My older brother sparked my interest in butterflies when he would stand in a courtyard in late summer afternoons and wait for the Red Admiral Butterflies to land on his shoulder. He also rounded up other kids in the area to hunt for tussock moth caterpillars that would descend from the trees and sit on railings and wood fences in the courtyard where we lived. Once I saw my first glimpse of the poisonous cecropia caterpillars, as the kids in the neighborhood would refer to them and sadly kill with sticks and stones or an occasional shoe, I knew that I wanted to find more of these beautiful insects. I began collecting butterflies in the neighborhood, but there were only a few species to be found such as the Cabbage Butterfly or the Alfalfa Butterfly. An occasional glimpse of a Tiger Swallowtail sailing across the courtyard would send my heart pounding.

When we moved to the suburb of Wilmette, Illinois in 1963, I thought I was in heaven. Back then, there were still a lot of open fields and forests available for anyone to explore. My first glimpse of a Red Spotted Purple was a thrill. (Cont. on Pg. 63)



Jeffrey Slotten, 1998 Abbot Award Recipient.  
In the Field,

## MOTH COLLECTING IN CENTRAL FLORIDA. PART I. DREPANIDAE AND GEOMETRIDAE

Roy W. and Lorraine F. Rings

Most drepanids are easily recognized (except Eudeilina) by their distinctly hook-tipped forewings.

The geometrid moths have slender bodies and broad wings. In central Florida most species can be identified by their distinctive wing patterns. Covell (1984) and Ferguson (1985) are reliable guides for identification. Kimball's *Lepidoptera of Florida* (1965) must be used with caution because many scientific names are outdated and some are in error. The females of some species, such as the fall cankerworm, Alsophila pometaria (Harris) are wingless. In some genera (Plagodis) there are spring and summer forms that may be quite different from each other. The geometrid moths are readily attracted to lights and some species come to sugar baits designed for the collection of owl moths. The larvae are loopers and many resemble twigs. The caterpillars may be jarred from their host plants onto a sheet or inverted umbrella and are easily reared.

We have collected at three productive locations in central Florida: Avon Park Air Force Bombing Range, Osceola County; Lake Manatee State Recreational Area, Manatee County; and Myakka River State Park, Sarasota County.

### FAMILY DREPANIDAE - Hooktip moths

- 6255 ROSE HOOKTIP, Oreta rosea (Walker, 1855) Lake Manatee 17 Oct 1997 (1); Myakka River 17 May 1998 (1).

### FAMILY GEOMETRIDAE - Geometrid moths

- 6314 Itame varadaria (Walker, 1860) Lake Manatee 16 Feb 1998 (1).
- 6322 ORANGE WING, Mellilla xanthometata (Walker, 1862) Myakka River 28 Feb 1997 (1) & 28 Apr-23 May 1998 (30). This species was not recorded by Kimball. Covell reports that it ranges south only to South Carolina. The Myakka River specimens have the bright orange hind wing and the black subterminal spot as in Ohio specimens of Mellilla xanthometata.
- 6332 Semiothisa punctolineata (Packard, 1873) Lake Manatee 6 May 1998 (1).
- 6335 WOODY ANGLE, Semiothisa aequiferaria (Walker, 1861) Myakka River 10 Nov 1998 (6). The larval food plants are unrecorded. Common.
- 6336 SOUTHERN CHOCOLATE ANGLE, Semiothisa distribuaria (Hübner, 1825) Lake Manatee 4 Oct-22 Nov 1997 (34) & 26 Mar-16 Apr 1998 (10). The larvae feed on pines Common. Determined by C. V. Covell.
- 6337 SANFORD'S ANGLE, Semiothisa sanfordi Rindge, 1958 Lake Manatee 26 Feb 1998 (1). This is a very large species of Semiothisa.
- 6341 BICOLORED ANGLE, Semiothisa bicolorata (Fabricius, 1798) Avon Park 18 Apr 1998 (1). The larvae feed on pines. Common.
- 6362 Semiothisa continuata (Walker, 1862) Lake Manatee 21 Dec 1997 (1). Covell says the larvae feed on red cedar. Common.

- 6405 HOLLOW-SPOTTED ANGLE, Semiothisa gnophosaria (Guenée, 1857) Myakka River 2-17 May 1998 (6). The larvae feed on larch and willow. Common.
- 6419 PALE-VEINED ENCONISTA, Enconista dislocaria (Packard, 1876) Myakka River 28 Feb 1998 (1). The food plants of the larvae have not been recorded. Uncommon.
- 6486 DIMORPHIC GRAY, Tornos scolopacinarius (Guenée, 1857) Myakka River 19 Feb-22 Nov 1997 (2). The larvae feed on aster and coreopsis. Uncommon.
- 6583 PALE-WINGED GRAY, Anacamptodes ephyraria (Walker, 1860) Avon Park 18 Apr 1998 (1). The larvae feed on ash, birch, choke-cherry, elm, balsam fir, gooseberry, hemlock, maple and willow. Common.
- 6590 COMMON GRAY, Anavitrinella pampinaria (Guenée, 1857) Avon Park 3 Apr 1998 (3). The larvae feed on apple, ash, citrus, clover, elm, pear, poplar and willow. Common.
- 6597 SMALL ENGRAILED, Ectropis crepuscularia (Denis & Schiffermüller, 1775) Avon Park 3 Apr 1998 (1). The larvae feed on alder, apple, birch, elm, hemlock, maple, oak, poplar and willow. Common.
- 6652 WOOLLY GRAY, Lycia ypsilon (S. A. Forbes, 1885) Myakka River 28 Jan-17 Feb 1997 (4).
- 6742 RUFOUS GEOMETER, Xanthotype rufaria Swett, 1918 Avon Park 28 Mar 1998 (1); Myakka River 26 Jan-22 Nov 1997 (6) & 23 May 1998 (1). This species closely resembles Xanthotype urticaria but the latter has not been found south of Georgia. Xanthotype rufaria is smaller, deeper yellow and has a reddish coppery fringe (Covell, 1984).
- 6752 Pero zalissaria (Walker, 1860) Myakka River 5 Feb 1997 (1). In Kimball's book this is listed as Tacparia zalissaria Walker.
- 6763 OAK BEAUTY, Nacophora quernaria (J. E. Smith, 1797) Myakka River 28 Jan-28 Feb 1997 (4). Kimball lists this species as Phaeoura quernaria (Abbott & Smith).
- 6800 Sphacelodes vulneraria (Hübner, 1819-21) Myakka River 22 Nov 1997 (2). This species is easily recognized by the large reddish triangle in the middle of the costa which contrasts with the otherwise solid, dark-brownish fore wing.
- 6828 PURPLISH METARRANTHIS, Metarranthis homuraria (Grote & Robinson, 1868) Lake Manatee 21 May 1998 (1). Common.
- 6832 YELLOW-WASHED METARRANTHIS, Metarranthis obfirmaria (Hübner, 1823) Avon Park 28 Mar 1998 (1). This species has not been taken previously south of Hernando County.
- 6908 SOUTHERN NEPYTIA, Nepytia semiclusaria (Walker, 1863) Lake Manatee 6 May 1998 (2). This is a more northern Florida species which has not previously been collected south of St. Petersburg.
- 6941 CONFUSED EUSARCA, Eusarca confusaria (Hübner, 1813) Lake Manatee 7 Mar-29 Apr 1998 (2). Kimball lists this species as Apicia confusaria (Hübner).
- 6982 LARGE MAPLE SPANWORM, Prochoerodes transversata (Drury, 1770) Myakka River 16 Apr 1998 (1). Quite common and variable in appearance.
- 7028 Nemoria extremaria (Walker, 1861) Avon Park 28 Mar 1998 (1). The larval foods are unknown. Common.

- 7029 Nemoria elfa Ferguson, 1969 Lake Manatee 4 Dec 1997 (1). The larval hosts are unknown. Common.
- 7031 Nemoria catachloa (Hulst, 1898) Lake Manatee 20 Nov 1997 (1). The larval food habits are unknown. /Uncommon.
- 7032 Nemoria outina Ferguson, 1969 Lake Manatee 22 Jan 1998 (1). The larval foods are unknown. Uncommon.
- 7033 RED-BORDERED EMERALD, Nemoria lixaria (Guenée, 1857) Avon Park 28 Mar-3 Apr 1998 (2); Lake Manatee 20 Nov 1997 (2); Myakka River 4 Feb-22 Nov 1998 (9) & 26 Mar-17 May 1998 (27). Kimball reported this species as Racheospila lixaria Guenée. N. lixaria may be separated from other green species (except Nemoria bistriaria which does not occur in Florida) by the following combination of characters: postmedial lines very thin, slightly sinuous to dentate, curved subparallel to outer margins, terminal line red, fringes checkered red and white in fresh specimens, dorsal abdominal spots cream to white and surrounded by reddish shading (Ferguson, 1985).
- 7045 Nemoria bifilata (Walker, 1863) Lake Manatee 29 Apr-11 Oct 1998 (3). The larval hosts are unknown. Common.
- 7059 SOUTHERN EMERALD, Synchlora frondaria Guenée, 1858 Lake Manatee 6 Nov-4 Dec 1997 (2) and 25 Mar-11 Oct 1998 (17); Myakka River 28 Feb-17 May 1998 (4). The larvae feed on blackberry, chrysanthemum and Spanish needles. Common. This species is listed as three species( Synchlora aerata, Synchlora denticularia & Synchlora frondaria) by Kimball but Ferguson (1985) believes that Synchlora frondaria is a distinct species which replaces Synchlora aerata in Florida and other southern states. Synchlora denticularia (Walker, 1861) is now considered a synonym of S. frondaria (Hodges et al 1983).
- 7060 BROWN-SPOTTED EMERALD, Synchlora xysteraria (Hulst, 1886) Myakka River 28 Feb 1997 (3) & 28 Apr-17 May 1998 (7). This species is listed as Synchlora gerularia in Kimball (1962). Ferguson (1985) calls this an ornate little species that occurs in Florida and the Greater Antilles. It closely resembles, and was formerly misidentified, as Synchlora erularia, a neotropical species that also enters the United States but only in southern Texas.
- 7071 BLACKBERRY LOOPER, Chlorochlamys chloroleucaria (Guenée, 1857) Lake Manatee 6 Nov 1997 (2). This species is listed as Chlorochlamys indiscriminata (Walker, 1863) by Kimball but in Chlorochlamys discriminata has been synonymized by Ferguson in Hodges et al (1983).
- 7075 ANGLE-WINGED EMERALD, Chloropteryx tepperaria (Hulst, 1886) Lake Manatee 25 Mar-6 May 1998 (1). The larvae feed on bald cypress and hemlock. Common.
- 7108 NOTCH-WINGED WAVE, Idaea furcifera (Packard) Lake Manatee 6 May 1998 (1). Common.
- 7114 RED-BORDERED WAVE, Idaea demissaria (Hübner) Lake Manatee 29 Apr-11 Oct 1998 (4). Common.
- 7122 Idaea taturata (Walker, 1861) Lake Manatee 1 Nov 1997 (1).
- 7132 COMMON TAN WAVE, Pleuroprucha insulsaria (Guenée, 1857) Avon Park 3 Apr 1998 (1); Lake Manatee 6 Nov-23 Dec 1997 (5); Myakka River 22 Nov 1997 (3) & 26 Mar-2 May 1998 (4).
- 7136 PACKARD'S WAVE, Cyclophora packardi (Prout, 1936) Avon Park 28 Mar 1998 (1).
- 7181 Lophosis labeculata (Hulst, 1887) Myakka River 22 Nov 1997 (1). Kimball says "The sexes of Lophosis labeculata are dimorphic, the female, described under the name Lophosis roseotincta (Hulst), having much more yellow in streaky blotches on both wings."



- 7196 LESSER GRAPEVINE LOOPER, Eulithis diversilineata (Hübner, 1813) Myakka River 16 Apr-2 May 1998 (4). Kimball lists this species as Lygris diversilineata (Hübner).
- 7414 THE GEM, Orthonama obstipata (Fabricius, 1794) Lake Manatee 17 Oct 1997 (1). This species is sexually dimorphic; the fore wings of males are yellowish brown but darker brown from base to median line. The females are maroon with the lines accented by white dots and a prominent, discal white spot. Kimball lists this species as Nycterosea obstipata (Fabricius).
- 7416 BENT-LINE CARPET, Costaconvexa centrostrigaria (Wollaston, 1858) Lake Manatee 6 May 1998 (2). Kimball lists this species as Euphyia centrostrigaria (Wollaston).
- 7441 LITTLE BEGGAR, Eubaphe meridiana (Slosson, 1889) Lake Manatee 20 Nov 1997 (1).
- 7474 COMMON EUPITHECIA, Eupithecia miserulata Grote, 1863 Lake Manatee 6 Nov 1997 (1); Myakka River 22 Nov 1997 (1).

## LITERATURE CITED

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- Ferguson, Douglas C. 1985. The moths of America North of Mexico. Fasc. 18.1 Geometroidea, Geometridae (Part) Wedge Entomological Research Foundation 131 pp.
- Hodges, Ronald W., Tatiana Dominick, Donald R. Davis, Douglas C. Ferguson, John G. Franclemont, Eugene G. Munroe and Jerry A. Powell. 1983. Check list of the Lepidoptera north of Mexico. E.W. Classey, Ltd, London, England. 284 pp.
- Kimball, C. P. 1965. The Lepidoptera of Florida, an annotated checklist. Division of Plant Industry, Florida Department of Agriculture. Gainesville, Florida. 363 pp.

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(Abbot Award, Cont. From Pg. 59) I was quite the amateur until I met Irwin Leeuw through correspondence. Irwin lived in Cary, Illinois and was so generous in his giving of information and specimens. We took one trip together in Michigan, and continued to correspond for many years thereafter. After this, I was involved in high school and preparation for college. I graduated from New Trier High School in Northfield, Illinois and obtained a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Biology from Carleton College in Minnesota. There I met Paul Jensen, an ecologist, who introduced me to the mid-western prairies. I pursued some projects with Lepidoptera and had intended to study entomology as a career. Along the way, people such as Pat Conway, Rod Irwin, Mo Nielsen, and Ron Huber were extremely generous in their encouragement of my field work.

Though I took a year of post baccalaureate courses at the University of Florida in the entomology department after graduation from college and worked at the Division of Plant Industry and met some fine people, I decided to pursue a career in dentistry after meeting a few dental students at Shands Teaching Hospital in Gainesville where I worked as a respiratory technician. I knew that I could continue my studies of Lepidoptera as a hobby. I moved back to Illinois and obtained a Doctor of Dental Science Degree from the University of Illinois in 1984. I decided to practice dentistry in the Gainesville area and settled in Palatka, Florida where I have operated a practice of general dentistry since 1988.

My major interests in Lepidoptera include the life histories of the Sphingidae, the Saturniidae, the Arctiidae, the Noctuidae (especially Catocala and Schinia), and butterflies. I very much enjoy field collecting and photography. I have been a member of the Lepidopterists' Society since 1973 and a member of the Southern Lepidopterists' Society since it was founded in 1978 by Dave Baggett.

## THE HISTORY CORNER

We begin this column with an obituary of F. H. H. Strecker who described many Lycaenids, Notodontids and Noctuids, especially in the genus *Catocala*. The article is copied from his obituary in Vol. 18 (1): 1-4 of the Entomological News, January 1902. The article is in the words of the author who is anonymous.

Ferdinand Heinrich Herman Strecker

Ferdinand Heinrich Herman Strecker died at 7:55 A.M., November 30th, (1901) at his home, 1325 Mineral Springs Road, Reading, Pa.

He was standing at 6th and Penn about 6 P.M., Friday, the previous evening, waiting for a cab, when he was stricken with apoplexy (stroke) and fell. Friends went to his assistance and placed him in a cab, in which he was removed to his home. He never regained consciousness.

Deceased was 65 years of age. He is survived by his widow and two children, Mrs. Edwin L. Hettinger and Paul Strecker.

He had not been in the best of health for some weeks.

Dr. Strecker was of German parentage, and was born in Philadelphia, March 24, 1836. He inherited his fondness for scientific studies, and evinced this inclination at an early age. On his other's side were three naturalists of note. They were Benjamin, Edward, and Richard Kern.

Dr. Strecker was an architect, designer and sculptor by profession. He located in Reading when a boy, having accompanied his father, who was a prominent dealer in marble and marble worker of Reading at the time. Since then he followed the pursuits of his father. As a sculptor he gained a wide and enviable reputation, and he produced many praise-worthy works of art. He began his twelfth year at his work as artist and sculptor, and labored hard since. All his literary and scientific labor, the immense correspondence attending the collecting of his butterflies, was done at night, his vocation as sculptor taking up the daylight hours.

He traveled a great deal, and in 1855-56 visited the West Indies, Mexico and Central America, to examine the old Aztec monuments and to add to his collection.

His father, Ferdinand H. Strecker, was, during a period of ten years from 1846, a well-known sculptor of Reading. He was a native of Germany, and had a practical experience in the business twenty-six years in Munich, Rome and other large cities of Europe, and in Philadelphia, before coming to Reading. His delicate execution and masterly treatment of marble were remarkable. He had studied sculpture under Antonia Canova, famous artist and founder of a new school of Italian sculptor, who died in Venice in 1822.

Mr. Strecker came to America about 1835, and located in Philadelphia, where he carried on business until 1846, when he came to Reading. He died in 1856, and his talented son, Herman Strecker, succeeded him in business. Dr. Strecker owned the largest, most valuable, and, in every way, the most remarkable public collection of butterflies and moths on the American continent.

The Strecker collection comprises over 200,000 specimens and includes butterflies and moths whose haunts in life are on every portion of the discovered globe, not excepting the regions close to the poles, the hearts of the wildest forests of Africa, India, Australia, South America, the smaller islands of the Indian and Pacific Ocean.

In consideration of his scientific knowledge, Franklin and Marshall College some years ago conferred upon him the degree of Doctor of Philosophy.

In his earlier days, during holiday hours, he made trips to Philadelphia, studied at the Library of the Academy of Natural Sciences all branches of natural history, birds, mammals, insects, plants, etc., but later devoted all his time to insects, and finally, to Lepidoptera only.

He will be remembered in the entomological world by his work entitled *Lepidoptera, Rhopaloceres and Heteroceres, Indigenous and Exotic, with Descriptions and Colored Illustrations*, which was commenced in 1872. It was published and illustrated by the author, the drawings being made on stone (lithography) and colored by hand. Between the years 1872 and 1878 fifteen parts, containing fifteen plates, were gotten out. There were three supplementary parts published in the years 1898, 1899, and 1900. A single sheet was also published April 12, 1900, containing the description of *Neophasia epyaxa*. This work was a most valuable contribution to the subject, as the plates were excellent and they were published at a time when good figures of American insects were none too numerous. The figures of the genus *Catocala* were especially valuable, as were also those of the *Lycaenidae*. The work was published under difficulties, as the lithographic stone was cleaned for each plate to save expense. The author wielded a trenchant pen, and had a very direct way of expressing what he desired to say. Some parts of his work show considerable literary ability. The poetical description of the haunts of *Papilio marchandiz* is quite beautiful. The defense of the name *Jehovah* also shows talent for writing. His influence on the work of some of his contemporaries was, doubtless, considerable, as matters might have been worse if his strenuous objections had not been made to what he was pleased to call the species mill of one author, the generic fantasies of another, and the colossal egotism of a third. This work is in demand at the present time, and will doubtless, always be considered one of merit in the literature of American Lepidoptera.

In 1878 he published the *Butterflies and Moths of North America*, with full instructions for collecting, breeding, preparing, classifying, packing for shipment, and a Complete Synonymical Catalogue of Macro lepidoptera, with a full Bibliography, to which is added a Glossary of Terms and an Alphabetical list of Localities.

This work had a very considerable sale and evinces painstaking and careful work in compiling the literature. It shows remarkable knowledge of specific values and was the best work of its kind in this respect. Dr. Strecker had an accurate knowledge of entomological technic, and his example should not be lost. His collection would be a marvel to many in this respect. He had an interesting and striking personality, and was cordial, affable and full of anecdote. He was frequently visited by scientific men from this country and abroad and his correspondence was immense. In his chosen field he ranked deservedly high. He has been criticized by some on account of his more than great desire to add to his collection, but this may be ascribed to the fact that his love and enthusiasm for the study were intense and never flagged for a moment, and obscured every other thought. Two of his favorite expressions were that "It is human nature, you know to think of ourselves first, last and always," and "I never let the right hand know what the left hand does." Had it not been for such traits, many fine things in the collection would have been converted into *Anthrenus* (dermestids) ere this, and their value to the world would have been lost and scattered.

He was a remarkable man, and will be greatly missed by his entomological friends. The final disposition of his wonderful collection is not at present known.

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#### FIELD MEETINGS AND ANNUAL MEETING FOR 1999

There will be two field meetings and an Annual Meeting in the fall. The spring/summer field meeting will be held in Georgia. The date and location in Georgia will be determined by the results of the members who responded to the survey request that was included with the last Newsletter. The location of the annual meeting has yet to be determined. A fall field meeting will be held Labor Day week-end, 3,4,5,& 6 September 1999 in the Texas Panhandle. The site will be either Palo Duro Canyon State Park, or Caprock Canyon State Park. Depending on availability. We have reserved a bunk house or cabins and several camp sites. Fall moth collecting will be at its peak during the meeting and over 40 species of *Schinia* moths have been collected in the panhandle. This will be an exciting meeting. Mark your calendars now and plan to attend. More information will be forth coming in the next newsletter. We look forward to seeing you at one or all of the meetings.



## RESEARCH REQUEST & MEMBERS NOTICE

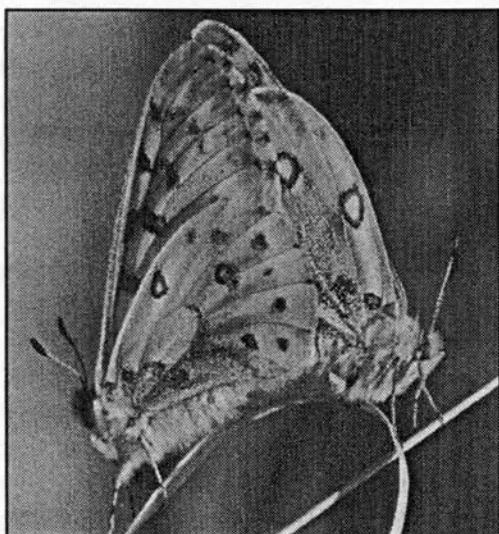
### 1999 LEPIDOPTERA WORKSHOP BIOLOGY OF BUTTERFLIES AND MOTHS

June 27 - July 3, 1999

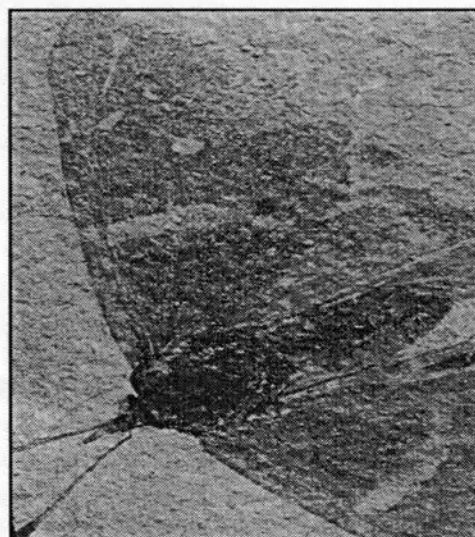
The annual Lepidoptera Workshop, at **The Nature Place** in Florissant, Colorado, will be held from June 27 to July 3, 1999. Please join us this summer for an exciting week of studying, observing, and photographing butterflies and moths in a fabulous mountain setting in central Colorado. Your instructors will be Drs. Boyce A. Drummond (Pikes Peak Research Station), Thomas C. Emmel (Univ. of Florida), and Frederick W. Stehr (Michigan State Univ.).

Montane and alpine meadows — carpeted with a rich array of wild flowers, alive with butterflies and moths, and surrounded by majestic mountain peaks in all directions — form the setting for this unique workshop. Almost 100 +species of butterflies and over a thousand species of moths occur on **The Nature Place** property. Field trips to nearby alpine passes, subalpine meadows, foothill canyons, and desert shrub lands will provide spectacular opportunities for butterfly watching, diurnal collecting, and photographing, while nighttime hookups for ultraviolet and mercury vapor lights will bring in a rich diversity of Colorado's outstanding moth fauna.

During the late afternoons and evenings, we will have a series of laboratory and seminar sessions to learn more about these fascinating insects. *Slide lectures* will cover a broad array of topics, including: an introduction to the classification of the Order Lepidoptera; characterization of the principal families of butterflies and moths; and details of the life histories, conservation biology, mimicry and protective coloration, reproductive biology, and evolution and ecology of this remarkably diverse group. *Hands-on instruction* will be offered on a variety of field and laboratory techniques, including: observation and interpretation of behaviors, butterfly gardening, breeding and rearing, monitoring and conservation, close-up field and specimen photography, and drawing and painting butterflies and moths and their habitats. With daily offerings of a selection of field trips and three full-time instructors, small groups and individualized instruction will be the norm for field work and learning opportunities. The broad range of topics covered should interest both the advanced and beginning lepidopterist.



"The *Phoebus parnassian* is a common sight in the montane meadows in Colorado"



"This specimen of the Eocene fossil butterfly *Polydryas persephone* was recently excavated on private land near Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument"



Located on the 6,000-acre **Sanborn Ranch**, 35 miles west of Colorado Springs at an average elevation of 8,600 feet, **The Nature Place** offers delicious home-cooked meals in an elegant dining room with a glorious view of Pikes Peak. Clustered around the central lodge are modern, carpeted studio apartments — each with a full bath, a fireplace, a kitchenette, and a loft. Near the lodge is the **Sportsplex**, complete with indoor pool, sauna, Jacuzzi, exercise room, tennis court, and volleyball court. Outdoors you can enjoy horseback riding, self-guided fitness and nature trails, and explore numerous other interpretive facilities and historical sites on the ranch. Adjacent to the **The Nature Place** is **Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument**, famous as the richest fossil insect site in the world. Over 1200 insect species have been described from the 35-million-year-old Eocene shales, including 12 species of fossil butterflies and several species of moths. We will visit this site and have an opportunity to dig for insect fossils on private land.

What better way to spend a week this summer than amid the splendid scenery of Colorado, invigorated by cool mountain air, and surrounded by colorful wildflowers and butterflies. This is an ideal opportunity to bring the entire family to the Rocky Mountains and enjoy a stimulating week of diverse activities at **The Nature Place**. For a complete description of activities and facilities, and an application form, please call or write:

**The Nature Place**

P. O. Box 167

Florissant, CO 80816

Tel: (719) 748-3475

or e-mail Boyce Drummond at: bdrummond3@aol.com.

**FOR SALE:** Light Traps, 12 volt DC or 110 volt AC with 15 watt or 20 watt black lights. The traps are portable and easy to use. Rain drains and beetle screens protect specimens from damage. For a free brochure and price list contact; Leroy C. Koehn, 6085 Wedgewood Village Circle, Lake Worth, FL 33463-7371; Tel.: 561-966-1655; E-mail: Leptraps@aol.com

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## CHANGES IN THE MEMBERSHIP

### NEW MEMBERS

Black, Clay, 7377 Tarrytown Drive, Springhill, FL 34606-6265

Conner, William, 2060 Mallard Lakes Drive, Winston - Salem, NC 27106

Foster, David M., 3432 San Jose Blvd, Jacksonville, FL 32207

Grisham, Collins, 3628 Oscar Bradford Road, Hayden, AL 35079

### CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Filiatrault, John, 4600 Dela Fabrique, Laval, Quebec, H7C 1C8, CANADA

Zufelt, Kirk, 1001 Third Line East, Sault St. Marie, Ontario, P6A 6J8, CANADA

## NEWSLETTER UP-DATE

This is the final newsletter for 1998. As we begin the new year we are excited and encouraged with the participation of the membership. However, the membership of the Society has not increased as anticipated. It has not been from the lack of effort. The past Membership coordinator, Drew Hildebrandt contacted all those who were a member at one time or another beginning in 1994. He also contacted each member who did not pay their dues in 1996, 1997 and 1998. We have averaged 126 paid members per year beginning in 1995. I have asked some of these former members why they were no longer members, and most claimed that they no longer believed that the Southern Lepidopterists Society could continue to exist in competition with NABA and other organizations that believed in non consumptive activities. These former members contributed this condition to the investigation of Lepidopterists by U.S. Fish and Wildlife in 1992 and the pervasive anti-collecting attitudes that now exist. John Calhoun is the Membership Coordinator for 1999 and we look forward to new ideas that will bring in new and old members. However, he cannot do it alone; he needs the help of the membership. We must increase the membership in 1999 if we are to have field trips, guest speakers at the Annual Meeting and continue to publish a large and informative newsletter. We need your help. Please encourage other Lepidopterists to join us. If you have any suggestions, please contact John Calhoun, 977 Wicks Drive, Palm Harbor, FL 34684-4656; Tel.: 813-785-0715.

Enclosed in this Newsletter is your renewal form for 1999 and a membership application. Please complete the renewal form and mail your 1999 dues in today. Please feel free to make additional copies of membership applications and send or give them to anyone you may know who has an interest in Lepidoptera.

We need your continued input. We need articles, book reviews, short notes, meeting announcements or **ANYTHING** that may be of interest to the membership. I emphasized "ANYTHING" to make a point. Articles and notes do not need to be high powered to be important. Anything (within reason and a little editing) can be put into the newsletter. Your opinions and ideas are important. We encourage you to speak out and send your opinions and ideas to the Editor.

Please keep your state coordinator informed of your activities. Records are extremely important, even for very common species. Your activities and records could greatly increase our knowledge of the Lepidoptera within your state and the region. Do you have interesting photographs of your activities and specimens? Your report is much more effective when photographs are included. Let your coordinator hear from you.

I am on-line; my E-mail address is: **Leptraps@aol.com** and I can receive all field reports as an attachment. I am able to convert most formats, If you are ever in doubt about file conversion, please send your file in ASCII (Text) format. Beginning with Vol. 20 No. 4, I will include the E-mail address for all State Coordinators who are on-line.

The newsletter deadlines for Vol. 21 are as follows: No. 1: 15 March 1999, No. 2: 15 June 1999, No. 3: 15 September 1999, and No. 4: 15 December 1999. I will keep the deadline dates. The newsletter will be on time.

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## STATE COORDINATOR REPORTS

We are in need of coordinators for both Louisiana and Mississippi. If you reside in either Mississippi or Louisiana and have an understanding of the Lepidoptera of that state, and would be willing to serve as the coordinator; contact the Chairman: James K. Adams, 1702 Crow Valley Road, #704, Dalton, GA 30720; Tel.: 706-278-6255; E-mail: [jadams@carpet.dalton.peachnet.edu](mailto:jadams@carpet.dalton.peachnet.edu).

**ALABAMA:** C. Howard Grisham, 573 Ohatchee Road, Huntsville, AL 35811; Tele: 205-776-9534

The Northeast Alabama drought of August and September continued through October and appears to have decimated the fall emergence of moths and certain butterflies. The signature species of fall in Jackson and Madison Counties, such as Hemileuca maia, Papaipema sp., and Atlides halesus, simply were not seen, though looked for heavily, and despite otherwise perfect autumn weather to be out and about. Only such "nuisance" species as Plathypena scabra and Anticarsia gemmatilis have appeared in any abundance, the former being particularly annoying as it flutters by me at dusk as I sit in my deer stand.

The following October and November, 1998, records are for Northeastern Alabama on Berry Mountain, Maysville/Gurley, Madison County (herein "Mays") or Bingham Mountain, Hollytree, Jackson County (herein "Holly"), captures being made by myself: 5169 Hymenia perspectalis Mays, 1 Nov.; 6586 Anacamptodes defectaria Mays, 24 Oct.; 6974 Patalene olyzonaria Holly, 16 October; 7058 Synchlora aerata Holly, 16 Oct.; 7890 Xylophanes tersa Mays, 31 Oct.; 8267 Ciseps fulvicollis Mays, 1 Nov.; 8574 Anticarsia gemmatilis Mays, 31 Oct. and Holly, 16 Oct.; 8743 Mocis latipes Mays, 24 Oct.; 8889 Agrappa oxygramma Holly, 16 Oct.; 8924 Anagrapha falcifera Holly, 16 Oct.; 9932 Pyreferra pettiti Mays, 24 Oct.; 9936 Eupsilia morrisoni Holly, 31 Oct.; 9945 Metaxaglaea semitaria Holly, 10 Nov.; 9952 Eucirroedia pampina, Mays, 31 Oct.; 9957 Sunira bicolorago Mays, 24 Oct.; 10998 Choephora fungorum Mays, 31 Oct.

The following records are from Collins Grisham during the months May-July, 1998, at and around Hayden, Blount County, Alabama: Hypoprepia fucosa 10 June, Automeris io 10 June and 25 June, Amphion floridensis 6 May, Paratraea plebeja 24 June, Paonias excaecatus 10 June, Smerinthus jamaicensis 28 May, Darapsa myron 28 May, Eumorphia pandorus 2 July, Manduca rustica 2 July, Citheronia sepulcralis 28 May, Callosamia angulifera 28 May, Metarranthus obfirmaria 21 May, Melipotis indomita 4 June, Charadra deridens 11 June, Cossula magnifica 11 June, and Ecpantheria scribonia 10 June.

The following records are from Collins Grisham during the months May-July, 1998, at and around Warrior, Jefferson County, Alabama: Citheronia sepulcralis 23 July, Callosamia angulifera 28 May, Actias luna 28 May, Eacles imperialis 11 June, Darapsa pholus 23 July, Lapara coniferarum 23 July, Manduca sexta 2 July, Xylophanes tersa 4 June, Sphinx kalmiae 28 May, Ceratomia undulosa 28 May, Ceratomia calalpa 28 May, Ceratomia amyntor 28 May, and Catocala ilia 23 July.

**ARKANSAS:** Mack Shotts, 514 W. Main Street, Paragould, AR, 72450; Tele: 501-236-3900 **NO REPORT!**

**FLORIDA:** Tom Neal, 1705 NW 23rd Street, Gainesville, FL 32605; Tele: 352-375-1916

In the previous issue of the Newsletter (Vol. 20 No.3) Leroy Koehn reported visiting Jonathan Dickenson State Park, Martin County, during the months of August, September, and October. He reported finding many species of Schinia. This extends the southern range of Schinia carolinensis, Schinia nubila, Schinia lynx, Schinia tuberculum, and Schinia spinosae in peninsular Florida. On October 3 he reported collecting Schinia sanguinea, although a county record, he had collected it previously in Dade, Collier and Glades counties. The Dade County specimens were collected at Navy Wells Pineland Preserve near Florida City, 12 October 1989. Leroy also collected the following butterflies and moths at Jonathan Dickenson: 18 September: He found Urbanus dorantes, Pyrgus oileus, Hesperia meskei, Hesperia attalus slossonae, and Atrytone logan logan. At UV lights he found Citheronia imperialis, Citheronia sepulcralis, Anisota consularis, Lapara coniferarum, Isoparce cupressi, Hyparpax perophoroides, Datana robusta, Datana ranaecephus, Cisthene striata, Cisthene subjecta, Holomelina laeta, Pygarcia abdominalis, Empyreuma affinis, Heliothis zea, Schinia carolinensis, Schinia nubila and Schinia lynx.

24 September: He found Hesperia meskei, Poanes aaroni howardi, Problema byssus byssus, Asbolis capucinus, and Atrytonopsis loammi. At UV lights he found Eumorphia achemon, Eumorphia fasciata, Eumorphia labruscae, Xylophanes pluto, Xylophanes tersa, Hyles lineata, Paraga simplex, Seiractia echo, Ecpantheria scribonia, Apantesis phyllira, Apantesis nais, Schinia sordida, Schinia saturata, Schinia trifascia, and Schinia gloriosa.



25 September: Epargyreus clarus, Euphyes berryi, Syntomeida epilias jucundissima, Lymire edwardsii, Melipotis prolata, Dysgonia similis, and Gonodonta nutrix.

1 October: Hesperia meskei, Euphyes arpa, Battus polydamas lucayus, and Cosmosoma myrodora.

12 October: Hesperia attalus was extremely abundant. It was the most common butterfly on the wing. Also found were Nastra neamathla, Atrytonopsis loammi, Hesperia meskei, Schinia sanguinea, Schinia petulans, Schinia spinosa, Schinia lynx, Schinis nubila, and Schinia tuberculum.

25 October: There were very few butterflies to be seen. However, two species, Junonia coenia and Hermeuptychia sosybius were extremely abundant. He also found several Vanessa cardui.

After the Annual Meeting in Gainesville, Leroy Koehn, Bob Beiriger, Paul Opler, Bill Russell, Byron Bratlie and Ronald Hirzel visited the Turkey Oaks near Williston and found: Hesperia attalus, Hesperia meskei, Urbanus dorantes, and Urbanus proteus. At UV lights they found: Rhodoecia aurantiago, Schinia bina, Schinia petulans, Schinia tuberculum, Schinia arcigera, Schinia rivulosa, Schinia saturata, Schinia trifascia, Schinia sanguinea, Schinia nundina, and Schinia arefacta.

They also visited the area around Yankeetown and found: Mitoura gryneus swadlowi, Euphyes pilatka, and Pterourus palamedes, and Pterourus troilus.

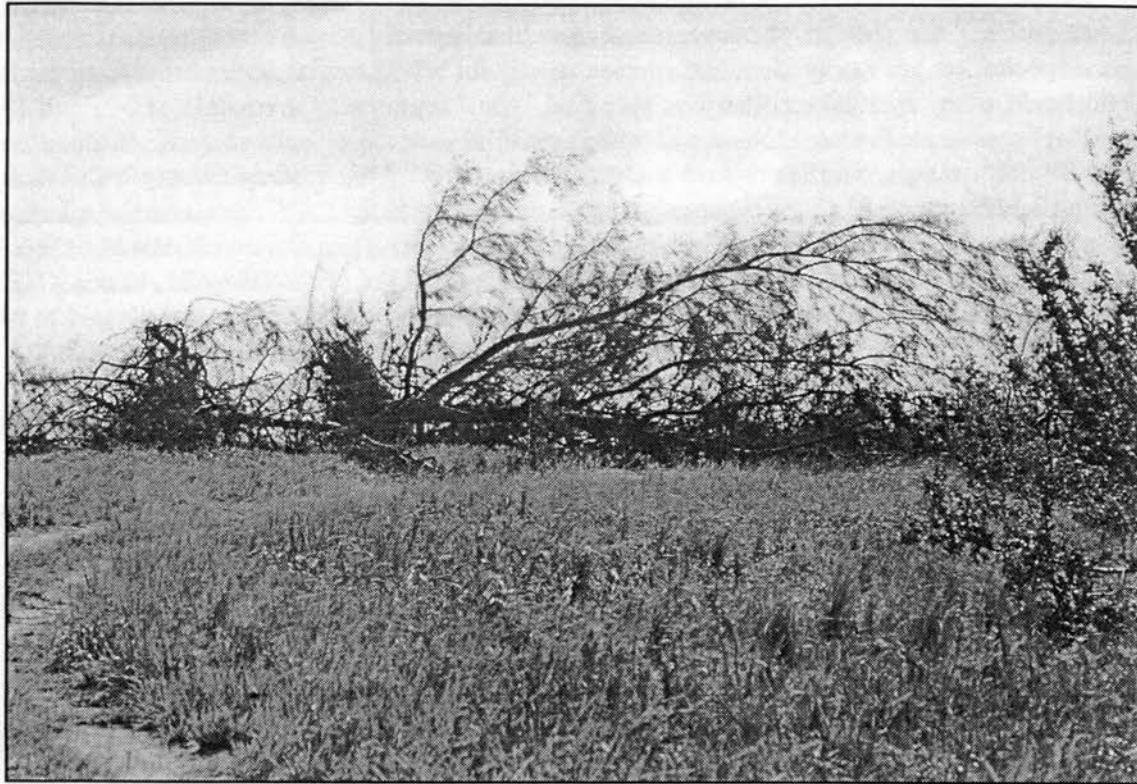
Jeffrey Sloten reported collecting a single Papaipema appassioata, in a pitcher plant bog at UV lights, 30 October 1998, in Apalachicola National Forest, Liberty County. He also found Choephora fungorum on 26 November 1998 at Newnans Lake in Alachua County.

Jeffrey Sloten found larvae of Euchaetes egle on a milkweed vine, Matelea sp., which he and Tom Neal attempted to rear on Asclepias curassavica. Only a few larvae survived and it appears that this is only a marginally acceptable foodplant. Tom Neal is currently rearing a second generation on Cynanchum angustifolium (Gulf Coast Swallowwort). They appear to be thriving on it and are currently (20 December 1998) in the third instar.

Andy Anderson reported collecting Schinia diffusa in late October and early November of 1997 in Pinellas County for a new **COUNTY RECORD** was determined by Jeffrey R. Sloten.

Richard Boscoe visited the Turkey Oak southwest of Williston, Levy County, 4 October 1998 and reported the following: Hesperia attalus females collected on fall composites, they oviposited in confinement on Andropogon and will accept Poa in the lab. A few have pupated, but most were still feeding as of this report. Hesperia meskei were present with Hesperia attalus, but in much lower numbers. All adults seen were males. An Euphyes arpa female was collected on Liatris and oviposited on Serenoa repens in confinement. Richard also made a correction to his report in Vol. 20 No.3 of Autochthon cellus. The ova and young larvae that he found on Amphicarpa bracteata along the Chipola River near Marianna, Jackson County, 24 May 1998, which he assumed incorrectly to be Autochthon cellus were actually Erynnis zarucco.

Leroy Koehn and Bob Beiriger visited the Keys on several occasions in 1998 and found virtually nothing. Other than an occasional Agraulis vanillae and Phoebus agarithe, they saw very little. On Friday, 27 November 1998 they visited the Lower Keys and found the damage to the remaining habitat from hurricane Georges was extensive (Fig.#1). On the southeast side of Ohio Key, a favorite spot for Strymon martialis and Strymon columella there was severe damage. All of the vegetation that was at the waters edge was washed away, blown away or knocked down. Several Brephidium pseudofoea were found in a salt flat nearby. Leroy Koehn has a permit to collect in several state parks in the Keys and will continue to monitor the Lepidoptera populations in the Keys in 1999. Leroy visited Big Pine Key on 21 December 1998 and found the damage from hurricane Georges to the slash pine areas extensive. Most natural areas were severely damaged, Cactus Hammock (National Wildlife Refuge) on the east side of Big Pine Key was also heavily damaged. The majority of the vegetation was up-rooted and/or blown away.



Damage to trees caused by Hurricane Georges on southeast side of Ohio Key.

Leroy states that the continued applications of insecticides to control mosquitoes may be a major contributing factor to the decline in Lepidoptera and other insects as well. The insecticides are meant to "KILL" the blood thirsty mosquitoes that plague the Keys. It is extremely evident that the mosquitoes may have developed a resistance to the insecticides as there are still plenty of them.

**GEORGIA:** James K. Adams, 1702 Crow Valley Rd. #704, Dalton, GA 30720; Tele: 706-278-6255; E-mail: jadams@Carpet.dalton.peachnet.edu

Fall observations of Cloudless Sulphurs (*Phoebis sennae*) continued to indicate that this was a tremendous year for this species; it was last seen in north Georgia on December 7. Gulf Fritillaries (*Agraulis vanillae*) finally did increase in numbers in September and October in north Georgia. Most striking perhaps was the incredible outbreak of White-M Hairstreaks (*Parhassius m-album*) and the day-flying Lithosiine arctiid moth *Lycomorpha pholus* at an area called the Pocket on the west side of Pigeon Mountain, 11 miles WSW of LaFayette, Walker County, the middle two weeks of September. Hundreds of both species could be encountered on a given day, with Great Purple Hairstreaks (*Atlides halesus*) also having a decent flight at the same location. *Atlides halesus* was also found in the hundreds at Grand Bay Wildlife Management Area east of Valdosta (see below). The Large Orange Sulphur (*Phoebis agarithe*) was also seen at "the Pocket" for a new Georgia state record. Checkered Whites (*Pontia protodice*) also had a much better than average flight this fall throughout north Georgia.

Some of the late season Underwing Moths (*Catocala*) finally had decent flights, with *Catocala vidua* being particularly abundant. The Intermediate Tiger Moth (*Grammia parthenice intermedia*) also had a nice flight, as did the Pink Spotted Hawkmoth (*Agrius cingulatus*). *Papaipema arctivorens* was recorded for the first time in the state of Georgia, and *Papaipema eupatorii* was recorded for the second and third times. *Xestia elimata* and *Xestia dilucida* were both abundant from late October into November. Previous records of *Xestia (Anomogyna) badicollis* for Georgia need to be validated; most (including mine) refer to *Xestia elimata*.

Records are from James Adams (JA or no initials indicates record from James), Irving Finkelstein (IF), Bill Russell (BR), or Mike Chapman (MC). These represent new or interesting records (range extensions, unusual dates, uncommon species, etc.) or newly identified species, mostly for NW Georgia. Records are from the Dalton/Rocky Face, Whitfield County area unless otherwise specified. "Car." represents Carbondale, at I-75 exit 134, Whitfield County; "Pig." represents Pigeon Mountain at "the Pocket" 11 miles WSW of LaFayette, Walker County; "Tay." represents Taylor's Ridge, 5 miles W. of Villanow along Hwy. 136, Walker County; "Con." represents the Murray/Whitfield County line, nr. the Conasauga river, on Hwy. 76; "Allatoona" represents the Allatoona Lake Dam area, Bartow County; "Glynn" represents 5 miles west of Brunswick, Glynn County; "GBWMA" represents Grand Bay Wildlife Management Area, along the Lowndes/Lanier County Line, NW of Hwy. 31, 12 miles NE of Valdosta. Known state and county records are indicated as such.

James Adams collected at Cooper's Creek Recreational Area on the Fannin County Side, August 6, 1998. PAPILIONIDAE: Papilio glaucus was incredibly abundant and one aberrant specimen was collected (see Fig.#1).

PIERIDAE: Pieris (Pontia) protodice, several records for both Whitfield and Walker County (COUNTY; at Pig.); Phoebis agarithe (STATE), 12 Sept.. 1998 (Pig.).

LYCAENIDAE: Mitoura grynea, 14 Sept. 1998 (Pig.; IF); outbreak of Parhassius m-album, second through fourth weeks of Sept., 1998 (Pig.; JA and IF); several Atlides halesus, 14 Sept. 1998 (Pig.; JA and IF), also 4 Oct. 1998 (GBWMA; JA and BR, see below); Leptotes cassius, Atlanta, Fulton Co. (Irving Finkelstein's yard), 17 July 1998 (IF).

HESPERIIDAE: Several Urbanus dorantes, 4 October 1998 (GBWMA; JA and BR); Wallengrenia egeremet, early Dec. (LATE, Glynn, MC); Poanes aaroni (COUNTY), 4 Oct. 1998 (GBWMA); Poanes yehl (COUNTY) and Problema byssus, 11 Sept. 1998 (Allatoona; IF); Panoquina ocola (COUNTY), 14 Sept. 1998 (Pig.), also in large numbers, Oct. 1998 (Glynn, MC); Calpodus ethlius (COUNTY), 6 Sept. 1998 (Glynn; MC). SPHINGIDAE: Agrius cingulatus (2), 22 Sept. 1998 (Rocky Face; Con.). ARCTIIDAE: Grammia virgo, 12 Sept. 1998; Dahana atripennis, Cosmosoma myrodora and Syntomeida ipomoeae, Sept. 1998 (Glynn; MC); outbreak of Lycomorpha pholus, Sept., 1998 (Pig.; JA and IF).

NOCTUIDAE: Catocala robinsoni, 26 Sept. 1998; Selenisa sueroides, 18 Sept. 1998 (Con.); Feltia herilis, several records, Sept. and Oct. 1998; Ochropleura implecta (COUNTY), 17 May 1994 and 26 Oct. 1996 (Car.), also 14 Sept. 1997; Protolampra brunicollis (STATE), 14 May 1997 (Tay.), also 6 July 1997; Agrotis venerabilis, 18 Oct. 1998; Agrotis malefida, 12 Oct. 1998; Agrotis gladiaria, 18 Oct. 1998; several Agnorisma (formerly Xestia) bollii, 29 Oct. and 31 Oct. 1998; Himella intractata, 8 Mar. 1997; Sutyna privata (2), 11 Sept. 1998, also 22 Sept. 1998 (Car.); Lithophane antennata, 18 Oct. 1998; Lithophane bethunei, 18 Oct. and 29 Oct. 1998; Lithophane petulca (2), 29 Oct. 1998; Lithophane baileyi, 29 Oct. 1998; Apamea mixta, 28 June 1998 (Gates; IF); Papaipema arctivorens (STATE), 12 Sept. 1998; Papaipema marginidens, 18 Oct. 1998; Papaipema eupatorii, 18 Oct. and 29 Oct. 1998; Meropon dirvesicolor, 19 Oct. 1998, also 31 Aug. 1998 (Gates; IF, both COUNTY); Oligia modica, several records Sept. 1998; Perigea xanthoides, 11 Sept. 1998 (Allatoona, IF); Panthea acronyctoides, 9 Aug. 1998 (Gates; IF); Heliocheilus subflexus, 11 Sept. 1998 (Allatoona; IF), also 19 Sept. 1998;

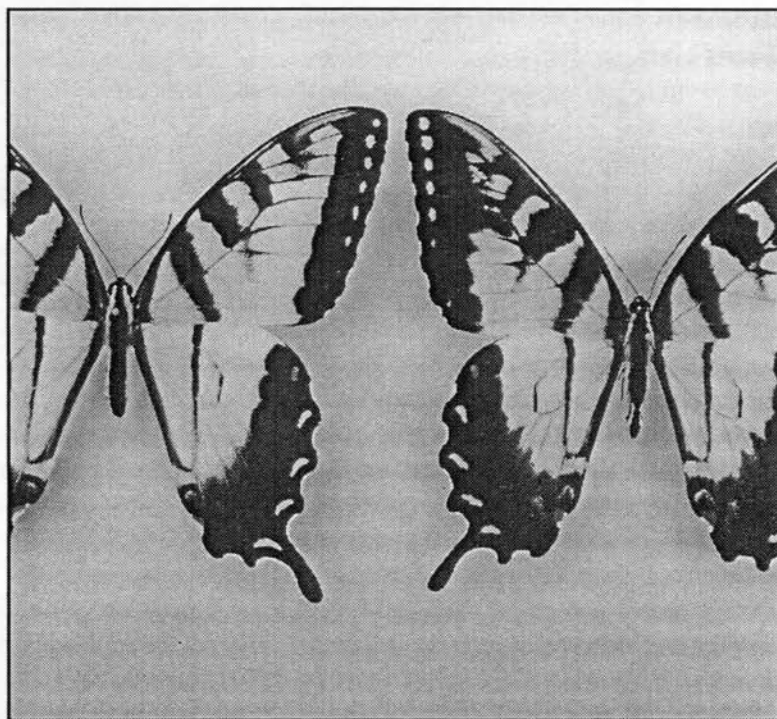


Fig.#1.

Papilio glaucus; Normal ♂ on left aberrant ♂ on right.



Schinia siren, 30 Sept. 1998, S. Lumpkin Rd, 1.5 miles S of Columbus, Muscogee County (IF; COUNTY). DREPANIDAE: Drepana arcuata, 12 Sept. 1998 (Con.), also 22 Sept. 1998 (Car.). GEOMETRIDAE: Caripeta aretaria, strong flight from 10 - 22 Sept. 1998. EPIPYROPIIDAE: Fulgoraacia exigua, 22 Sept. 1998.

Bill Russell additionally filed these site specific reports:

3 miles west of Ray City, Cook County, 4 Oct. 1998; all of the following butterfly records are COUNTY records. HESPERIIDAE: Urbanus proteus, Urbanus dorantes, Pyrgus communis, Copaeodes minimus, Hylephila phyleus. PIERIDAE: Phoebis sennae, Eurema lisa, Eurema nicippe. LYCAENIDAE: Strymon melinus. NYMPHALIDAE: Agraulis vanillae, Euptoieta claudia, Phyciodes tharos, Junonia coenia, Limenitis archippus.

Grand Bay Wildlife Management Area, Lanier County, 12 Oct. 1997 (1), 2 Oct. 1998 (2), and 4 Oct. 1998 (3) (see above as well for more records from the same site); first records for each species are COUNTY records. HESPERIIDAE: Urbanus proteus (1,2,3), Urbanusdorantes (1,3), Pyrgus communis (1,3), Lerema accius (1,3), Hylephila phyleus (3), Polites vibex (3), Wallengrenia otho (3), Panoquina ocola (1,3). PAPILIONIDAE: Papilio glaucus (3), Papilio palamedes (1,2,3). PIERIDAE: Phoebis sennae (1,2,3), Eurema lisa (1,2,3), Eurema nicippe (1,3). LYCAENIDAE: Atlides halesus (1,2,3-abundant; in the hundreds!), Calycopis cecrops (1,2,3), Strymon melinus (2,3). NYMPHALIDAE: Agraulis vanillae (1,2,3), Euptoieta claudia (1), Phyciodes tharos (3), Vanessa virginiensis (3), Junonia coenia (1,3), Limenitis archippus (1,3). ARCTIIDAE: Utetheisa bella (3).

Near the Withlacoochie River, Berrien County, 12 Oct. 1997 (1) (with Irving Finkelstein) and 2 Oct. 1998 (2); all of the following are COUNTY records. HESPERIIDAE: Urbanus proteus (1), Pyrgus communis (2), Copaeodes minimus (1), Wallengrenia otho (1), Panoquina ocola (1). PIERIDAE: Pieris rapae (1), Phoebis sennae (2), Eurema lisa (2), Eurema nicippe (2). LYCAENIDAE: Calycopis cecrops (1). NYMPHALIDAE: Agraulis vanillae (2), Phyciodes tharos (2), Junonia coenia (1), Limenitis archippus (1), Hermeuptychia sosybius (2).

John Hyatt has filed this partial list of moths from his place on Kittles Island, near Meridian, McIntosh County:

YPONOMEUTIDAE: Atteva punctella. PSYCHIDAE: Cryptothelia gloverii, Oiketicus abbotii. URODIDAE: Urodon parvula. COSSIDAE: Givira francesca, Prionosyxtus robiniae, Cossula magnifica. TORTRICIDAE: Choristoneura rosaceana. MEGALOPYGIDAE: Megalopyge opercularis. LIMACODIDAE: Prolimacodes badia. PYRALIDAE: Diacme elealis, Samea ecclesialis, Glyphodes pyloalis, Terastia meticulosalis, Agathodes designalis, Syngamia florella, Herculia olinalis, Clydonopteron tecomae. GEOMETRIDAE: Semiothisa transitaria, Semiothisa bicolorata, Anacamptodes defectaria, Cymatophora approximaria, Pero honestaria, Nepytia semiclusaria, Patalene olyzonaria, Nemoria lixaria, Synchlora frondaria, Idaea furciferata, Orthonama centrostrigaria. LASIOCAMPIDAE: Tolype minta, Artace cribraria. SATURNIIDAE: Eacles imperialis, Anisota pellucida, Automeris io, Antheraea polyphemus. SPHINGIDAE: Enyo lugubris, Darapsa myron (Floridian phenotype). NOTODONTIDAE: Datana contracta, Datana perspicua, Macrurucampa marthesia, Heterocampa astarte. ARCTIIDAE: Cisthene plumbea (?), Hypoprepia fucosa, Utetheisa bella, Halysidota tessellaris, Dahana atripennis. NOCTUIDAE: Idia americalis, Hemeroplanes scopulepes, Plusiodonta compressipalpis, Anomis erosa, Litoprosopus futilis, Anticarsia gemmatilis, Panopoda rufimargo, Selenisa sueroides, Metria amella, Mocis latipes, Mocis marcida, Mocis disseverans, Doryodes bistrialis, Catocala amica, Marathyssa inficita, Bagisara repanda, Panthea furcilla, Polygrammate hebraeicum, Spodoptera ornithogalli, Elaphria chalcedonia, Lacinipolia olivacea, Leucania linita, Agrotis ipsilon, Heliothis zea, Schinia trifascia.

In 1996 Tom Neal visited Georgia and reported the following:

On 21 July 1996 at Cooper Creek, Union County he collected: Paonias astylus, Grammia virgo, Catocala dejecta, and a number of Geometrids, among them; Anagoga occiduaria, Plagodis phlogosaria, Lambdina fervidaria, Tetracis crocallata, Antepione thisoaria, Cabera erythemaria, and Semiothisa fissinotata.

**LOUISIANA:** Vernon Brou, 74320 Jack Loyd Rd., Abita Springs, LA 70420; Tele: 504-892-8732; E-mail: vabrou@compsurf.com

Michael Israel visited Louisiana; On 28 October 1998; Jefferson Parish, Grande Isle, he found Calpododes ethlius, several last instar larvae on Cana, Panoquina ocola, Asterocampa clyton, and the sphingid moth, Enyo lugubris. 1-7 November 1998, East Feliciana Parish, Ethel, he found Panoquina ocola and on 25 October 1998, Zerene cesonia. 21 October 1998, West Feliciana Parish, Brandon, he found Zerene cesonia. 20&23 October 1998, West Feliciana Parish, Nature Conservancy's Mary Ann Brown Nature Preserve, SW Jackson, he found Calephelis virginienensis.

**MISSISSIPPI:** Bryant Mather, 213 Mt. Salus Dr., Clinton, MS 39056; Tele: 601-924-6360

Ricky Patterson reported finding Euphydryas phaeton ozarkae, 1♂ & 3♀ at Cumberland, Webster County 23 May 1998. Ricky commented that Charles Bryson had discovered the population in the early 70's - this was the first time in several visits that he had found them. He also found Fixsenia ontario ontario in the same location. Ricky also visited the Bay St. Louis area and found Euphyes bayensis; 1♂ & 2♀ at the type locality on 9 September 1998. He has sent them to John Shuey for confirmation.

**NORTH CAROLINA:** Steve Hall, North Carolina Natural Heritage Program, Div. of Parks & Recreation, P.O. Box 27687, Raleigh, NC 27611; E-mail: stephen\_hall@mail.enr.state.nc.us

Harry LeGrand filed the following report: **PIERIDAE:** Pontia protodice: In agricultural fields south of Raleigh, Wake County, I estimated about 100 on October 18, and 20 were present on October 31. Eurema lisa: This species was found in much larger than usual numbers across the state, particularly so in the foothills in northwestern North Carolina. **NYMPHALIDAE:** Agraulis vanillae: This species was seen in late summer and fall in many counties in the mountains and western Piedmont, where normally very rare. I received reports from the following counties away from the coast: Buncombe, Cleveland, Forsyth, Granville, McDowell, Polk, Richmond, Rutherford, and Yancey. Despite this "invasion", I saw none despite much field work in the eastern Piedmont, where I have yet to see the species in eight years. Thus, I suspect Agraulis disperses into western North Carolina from the west or southwest, as opposed to from the south or southeast. Danaus gilippus: Surprisingly large numbers were found at Fort Fisher, New Hanover County, in late summer and fall. Paul Hart saw over 20 in late summer, and I observed 12 on October 25. Despite this "abundance" there, I received no other state reports; there is a "semi-resident" population there, and the species has been found at this site in most recent years. Danaus eresimus: Derb Carter photographed (Fig.#1, Pg. 75) one nectaring at Cynanchum angustifolium at Fort Fisher on July 19 (**STATE RECORD**). Interestingly, he has photographed Danaus gilippus nectaring on this same vine, the local host plant for the species, at the same spot in a previous year! I am not aware of any records for Danaus eresimus for the Atlantic coast states north of Florida. **HESPERIIDAE:** Hesperia leonardus: Derb Carter observed and photographed four at Raven Rock State Park, Harnett County, on October 2. I observed four at two sites in Randolph County (**COUNTY RECORD**) on October 18. Poanes aaroni aaroni: Derb Carter photographed two individuals, presumably of this northern subspecies, in southern Dare County, on September 19. This is a rare species in the state, and the locale is several miles from previously known sites. Calpododes ethlius: I observed one at the N.C. State University arboretum in Raleigh, Wake County, on October 31. Derb Carter observed and photographed three in New Hanover County, in late November. These are the only reports for NC that I have received in 1998. We have several state records in mid-November in previous years; thus, considering the very mild weather in November 1998, these late November individuals are no surprise.

In 1996, Tom Neal visited North Carolina and reported the following:

On 22 July 1996 in the Joyce Kilmer Memorial Forest, Graham County and he collected; Selenia kentaria, Plagodis alcoolaria, Eclipoptera atricolorata, Semiothisa minorata, Horisme intestinata and Hydria prunivivata. On 23&24 July 1996, at Mt. Mitchell, Pisgah National Forest, Yancey County, 5,500' elevation he collected; Arctia caja, common, not seen on several previous trips, Lophocampa maculata, and the geometrids, Probole nepiasaria, Caripeta angustiorata, Eclipoptera atricoloraria, and Perizoma basaliata.

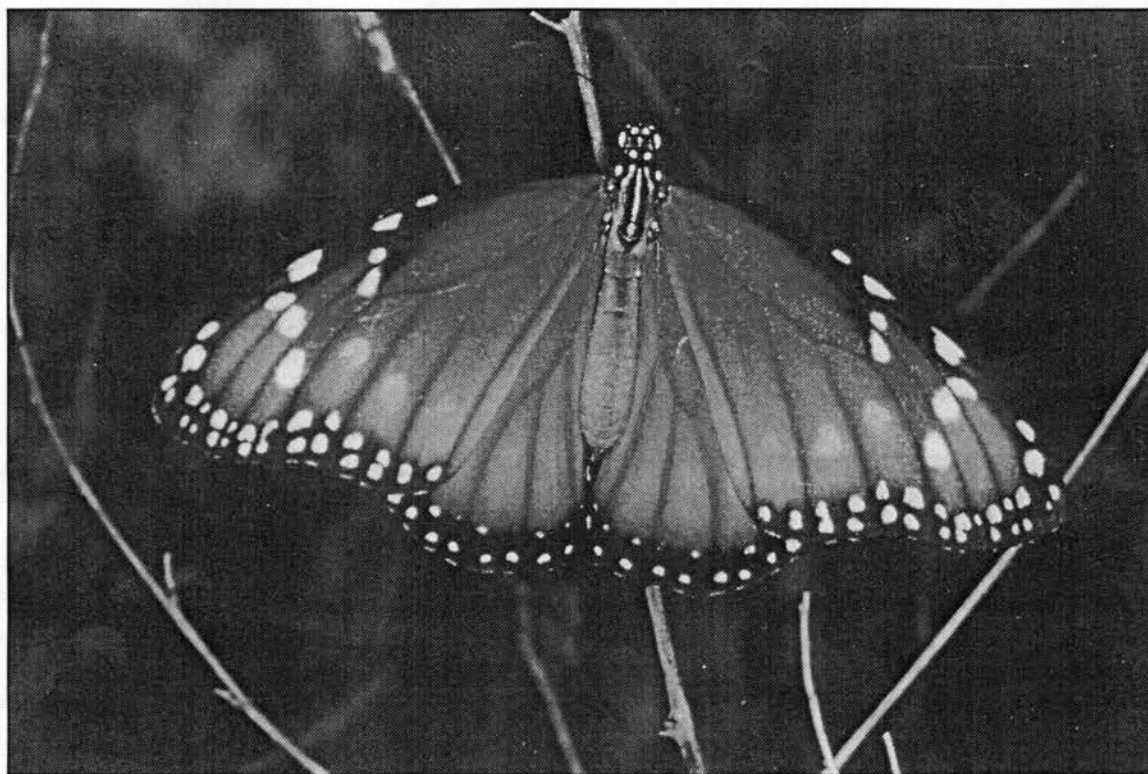


Fig. 1  
Danaus eresimus ♀

**SOUTH CAROLINA:** Ron Gatrell, 126 Wells Rd., Goose Creek, SC 29445; Tele: 803-553-8817 **NO REPORT!**

**TENNESSEE:** John Hyatt, 439 Forest Hills Dr., Kingsport, TN 37663; Tele: 423-239-6924; E-mail: jhyatt@eastman.com

**TEXAS:** Ed Knudson, 8517 Burkhart Road, Houston, TX 77055; Tele: 713-464-3529

Collectors planning to visit the Lower Rio Grande Valley of Texas should be advised the a popular collecting site along the Boca Chica Highway, about 8 miles east of Brownsville, (A.K.A. Palmito Hill) is now property of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and designated Boca Chic Wildlife Refuge. This area is off limits to collecting and closed to the public, without appropriate permits. We hope to be able to secure access to this and other areas through the TEXAS LEPIDOPTERISTS SURVEY, however, work is just beginning. There is a trend towards decreasing access for Lepidoptera researchers in this entire region of the state. Many accessible areas still remain in western Hidalgo and Starr counties.

Charles Bordelon and Ed Knudson visited the Lower Rio Grande Valley twice this fall with mixed result. The localities indicated with by \* are those at which no permits are required.

Starr County, Falcon State Park, 12 October 1998; Gonodonta pygro, recovered from a pheromone trap baited with ZZ.ODDA, same location, 13 November 1998: same trap: Zendoxus palmii, Z. rubens, and Minophisma delunaris.

Starr County, Salineno\*, 13 November 1998: Apeplopora mecrida (Arctiidae: STATE RECORD); and Basilarchia arthemis arizonensis (Eastern Distribution Record) collected Charles Bordelon

Jim Hogg, Heberonville; 12 November 1998, Massala obvertens (Knudson, Obv.).



Hidalgo County, Adhere Brush NWR, 14 & 15 November 1998; Tolype mayelisae and Eucosma sierrae (Eastern distribution record) collected by Ed Knudson.

Hidalgo County, Rio Rico Road\* near Reylampago, 16 November 1998: Melanis pixe and Lasaia sula were observed.

Hidalgo County, Palmview\* 18 November 1998; Mike Hayes collected Smyrna blomfilda.

Cameron County, Audubon Palm Grove Sanctuary, 17 & 18 November 1998: Pachylia ficus, Litoprosopus conflagens, were collected by Charles Bordelon. 17 & 18 October 1998; Biturix venosata (Arctiidae) and Condica pyromphalus were collected by Charles Bordelon and Ed Knudson.

Reports of recent capture of a Brassolid (Opsiphanes boisduvali) from Pharr, Texas have reached us but details are not yet available. Other interesting captures for 1998 in the Lower Rio Grande Valley, include Eunica tatilla, at Penitas, Hidalgo County in October by C. Sassine; Eueides isabella zorcaon, Brownsville, Cameron County in November by M. Quinn; and Urania fulgens, the date and location are unknown.

Leroy C. Koehn and Drew Hildebrandt visited the Lower Rio Grande Valley from 14 to 20 November 1998. The weather conditions were ideal. They collected 88 species of butterflies. However, moth collecting produced limited results and at times was very poor. They collected eight specimens of Smyrna blomfilda in bait traps in Cameron, Hidalgo and Starr counties. This species occurs very irregularly in the Lower Rio Grande Valley.

14/15 November; near the Brownsville Airport, Cameron County: Eurema mexicanum, Eurema proterpia, Lasaia sula, Ministrymon clytie, Calycopis isobea, Strymon columella, Urbanus procne, Chionodes catillus, Achlyodes mithridates, Nastra julia, and Panoquina sylvicola.

15 November; Palmito Hill east of Brownsville, Cameron County: Ministrymon clytie, Leptotes marina, Calephelis perditalis, Urbanus procne, Urbanus dorantes, Achlyodes mithridates, Chiomara asychis, Vidius perigenes, Panoquina panoquinoides, and Panoquinoides sylvicola.

16 November; Peñitas, Hidalgo County: Eurema mexicanum, Atlides halesus, Calephelis nemesis, Caria ino, Vanessa cardui, Myscelia ethusa, Anaea aidea, Chiomara asychis, Smyrna blomfilda, and Panoquina sylvicola. 16 November; Bentsen Rio Grande State Park, Hidalgo County: They used bait traps and found Adelpha fessonia, Myscelia ethusa, and Asterocampa leilia. They operated a UV light system and found very few moths.

17/18 November; the Fronton area, Starr County: In bait traps they found Myscelia ethusa and Anaea aidea. Along the Rio Grande River they collected Appias drusilla, Pontia protodice, Eurema mexicanum, Eurema nise, Euptoieta hegesia, Texola elada, Philisora catullus, Amblyscirtes eos, and Panoquina sylvicola.

19/20 November; Santa Margarita Ranch, Starr County they collected; Eurema mexicanum, Eurema nise, Strymon columella, Caria ino, Dione moneta, Anathanassa texana, Urbanus procne, Urbanus dorantes, Amblyscirtes eos, Panoquina sylvicola, and the day flying Arctiid moth; Syntomea melanthus.

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The end of the 1998 season was highlighted by an unprecedented heat-wave during the last week of November and first week of December. After several days of 60-70° weather, the temperature climbed to 82° at Dulles Airport in Loudon County on 5 Dec., an all-time record high for the month. Pieris rapae and Colias eurytheme took full advantage of the warm weather, emerging in numbers, and were reported from several areas in the Washington D.C. metro area.

Hibernators also took advantage, with Nymphalis antiopa, Polygonia interrogationis and Polygonia comma out, as well as a late individual of Vanessa virginiensis. Very late reports of Phoebis sennae came in from several areas on December 6, including one report from the Washington D.C. suburbs. The season finally culminated with three species (non-hibernators) reported from Richmond on December 20.

Counties listed first. Note, new county records are in all-caps. New independent-city records (equal to county status) are listed similarly. Following the county/independent city listing, are: date; name of nearest community and/or locality (if given); reporting person's initials; means of identification (if known) in parentheses; and any observational notes.

Key to sources: BF=Barbara Farron, BG=Bill Grooms, BH=Bill Hark, CH=Carolyn Henly, CK=Clyde Kessler, DB=Dennis Burnette, HP=Harry Pavulaan, LS=Lynn Smith, JB=Janet Bruner, SP=Sandra Pavulaan, SR=Steve Roble.

Epargyreus clarus: Fairfax: 10/28/98, Herndon, HP (sight), freshly-emerged large female observed nectaring on Zinnia (state late record?). Urbanus proteus: Fairfax: 9/20/98, Springfield, BF (photo). Loudoun: 10/28/98, Leesburg, BG (voucher taken), very late. Pyrgus communis: Richmond City: 11/29/98, 12/6/98, 12/20/98 (state LATE record), Maymont Park, BH (sight). Atalopedes campestris: Fairfax: 10/28/98, Herndon, HP (5 observed). Eurytides marcellus: Westmoreland: 9/3/98, Westmoreland State Park, HP (sight), unusually common! Pterourus glaucus: Fairfax: ova on Ptelea trifoliata (Wafer Ash) on 9/3/98, Herndon, HP. Larva reared to pupation. Pieris rapae: Fairfax: 12/1/98, 12/3/98 (several observed), 12/5/98, Herndon, HP (sight); 12/3/98, Great Falls village, HP (nearly road-killed). FAIRFAX City: 12/4/98, HP (sight). Loudoun: 11/29/98, Leesburg, BG (sight). Pulaski: 11/28/98, CK (sight). Richmond City: 11/29/98, 12/6/98, Maymont Park, BH (sight). Colias eurytheme: Fairfax: 11/28/98, Mason Neck State Park, LS (sight); 12/1/98, 12/5/98, Herndon, HP (sight); 12/5/98, Vienna, HP (sight and voucher), 15 counted in 1/2 hour, two vouchered, all appeared to be fresh winter form males, with one very ragged summer form male released, also 12/6/98, Vienna, HP (two vouchers taken). Goochland: 11/29/98, 11/30/98, Maidens, CH (sight). Loudoun: 11/29/98, Leesburg, BG (sight). Pulaski: 11/28/98, CK (sight). Richmond City: 11/29/98, 12/6/98, Maymont Park, BH (sight). Colias philodice: Pulaski: 11/28/98, CK (sight). Richmond City: 11/29/98, 12/6/98, 12/20/98, (several each date), Maymont Park, BH (sight). Eurema nicippe: Fairfax: 10/25/98, Great Falls, Great Falls National Park, HP & SP (sight), three individuals observed among rock fields overlooking falls. Phoebis sennae: Accomack: 11/28/98, DB (21 sighted). ARLINGTON: 12/6/98, JB (sight). CHESTERFIELD: 12/6/98, SR (sight). Fairfax: 10/28/98, Herndon, HP (sight). Gloucester: 12/7/98, Gloucester, TK (sight), state LATE record. Goochland: 11/14/98, Maidens, CH (sight). Loudoun: 9/19/98, Sterling, HP (several sighted). Northampton: 11/26/98, DB (3 sighted). Richmond City: 11/29/98, Maymont Park, BH (2 sighted), also 12/6/98 (nectaring on Dandelion). Westmoreland: 9/13/98, along route 3 east of route 301, HP (sight), heavy flight observed, no directional movement. Euptoieta claudia: ARLINGTON: 11/15/98, JB (sight). Richmond City: 11/29/98, 12/6/98, Maymont Park, BH (several observed both dates). Phyciodes tharos: Richmond City: 11/29/98, Maymont Park, BH (sight). Polygonia interrogationis: Fairfax: 12/5/98, Runnymede Park, Herndon, HP (sight). Polygonia comma: Fairfax: 12/5/98, Runnymede Park, Herndon, HP (sight). Nymphalis antiopa: Accomack: 11/28, DB (sight). Fairfax: 12/5/98, Runnymede Park, Herndon, HP (sight). Vanessa virginiensis: Fairfax: 12/2/98, Vienna, HP (observed for several minutes). Goochland: 11/30/98, Maidens, CH (sight). Junonia coenia: Richmond City: 11/29/98, 12/6/98, 12/20/98, Maymont Park, BH (several observed each date). Danaus plexippus: Northampton: 11/26/98, DB (one sighted).

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